

Sabouraud's media gave rise to shiny, cream colonies of almost pure culture of yeast organisms. Some secondary contamination was encountered, but on exposing the initial culture to a saturated solution of chlorotone and again transplanting to Sabouraud's media, I obtained a pure culture.

The colonies appeared about three days after implantation of tissue. Microscopically the growth disclosed numerous budding, double-contoured organisms, but no mycelial threads were demonstrable. The growth reached its maximum peripheral extension in about one month.

Thanks are due to Miss Ethel Mahoney for her coöperation in the laboratory examinations.

Experimental.—A medical student volunteered for experimental inoculation, and a typical growth in the web of the third interspace was obtained in ten days. No further experimental work has been done up to the time of this paper.

TREATMENT

From previous experience this intractable disorder is known to resist antiparasitic measures such as Whitfield's ointment, chrysarobin and a combination of salicylic acid and ammoniated mercury. Repeated exposures of unfiltered x-ray and Kromeyer light to the point of tolerance produced no appreciable effect.

The patients were instructed to keep their hands out of soapy water as much as possible. By the application of one to two per cent aqueous solution of copper sulphate in the form of wet dressings three times daily, for ten minutes, complete cure was obtained in a period of eight to ten days. Repeated scrapings and cultures after clinical cure were negative for yeast organisms.

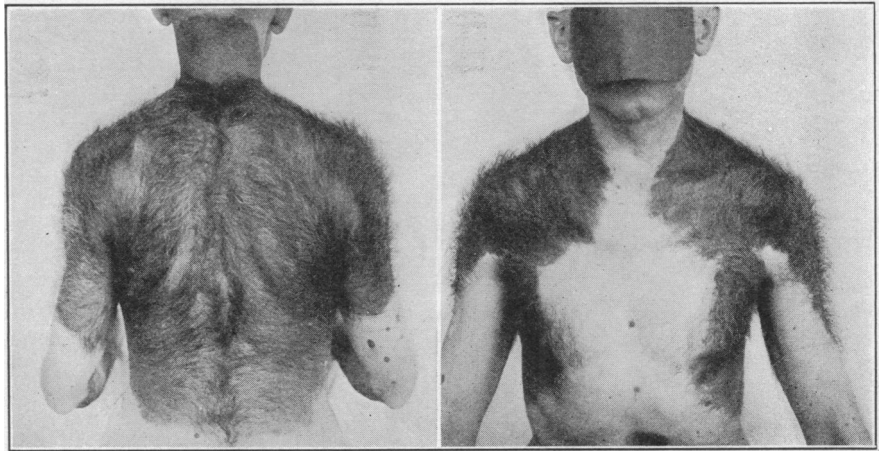
SUMMARY

1. In a series of twelve cases of *erosio interdigitalis blastomycetica* clinical and microscopical cures were obtained.
2. The duration of the disease in this series varied from two months to one and one-half years.
3. Soapy water is an important factor in the production and continuance of this disorder.
4. The absence of vesication, chronicity, fixed location, and the occurrence of the disorder on the hands of washerwomen, make the dermatosis worthy of consideration as an entity.

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Pigmented nevus.

A MEDICAL CURIOSITY

PIGMENTED NEVUS—WITH CASE REPORT

By M. S. KING, M. D.

Loma Linda

LAST November (1927) a patient came into the Loma Linda Sanitarium complaining of certain symptoms which are not of sufficient interest to be mentioned in this article, but he did present a physical defect which was indeed a very striking phenomenon, and which, to say the least, was a medical curiosity.

The point of interest was a peculiar congenital skin anomaly on his body. The most striking feature of this skin growth was its peculiar distribution, and the ideas that the patient himself had as to the cause of his trouble. The skin over the affected area was very dark and roughened in appearance and slightly elevated above the surrounding areas, and covered with a dense heavy growth of black hair, giving him a distinctly animal-like appearance.

The growth covered almost the entire upper surface of the back and the shoulders, extending about halfway up on the back of the neck and about halfway round toward the midline of the chest in front. It was very symmetrical in appearance and had a peculiar cut-away effect in front, resembling in appearance some sort of jacket or vest. It also extended a few inches down on the arms, giving it the appearance of short sleeves. The patient stated that he never perspired over this area. There were many smaller patches of a similar nature over the rest of the body and extremities. It was a source of great embarrassment to him, and had been more so in his adolescent years, as swimming and other similar activities so dear to the boyish heart were taboo for him. One of the smaller patches was removed and examined microscopically, and the following report given: "Sections show irregularity of the epidermis, and pigmentation of the deeper layers. In the corium are rather diffuse collections and small dark-staining cells, probably nevus cells. No evidence of malignancy. Diagnosis: pigmented nevus."

The patient was a firm believer in the popular idea of prenatal marking of the fetus. He stated that while he was a child (*in utero*) that his mother had wanted a sealskin jacket, which was the latest thing in fashion at that time, and was saving up money to buy one. Someone broke into the house and stole the money she had hoarded, and she was unable to get the jacket. This was a source of keen disappointment to her, and both she and her son believe it to be the cause of this peculiar birthmarking.

Loma Linda Sanitarium.